

The Economic Status of Kentucky Women

Kentucky Commission on Women

<http://women.state.ky.us>

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- 15 out of every 100 Kentucky families are single-mother families, and over half of them have children under 18.
- ¼ of Kentucky families have incomes below \$15,000; more than ½ of female-headed households fall below that level.
- Kentucky families headed by single mothers in 1990 were three times more likely than all families to be in poverty and more than three times as likely as married couple families. Two thirds of single-mother families with children under the age of six live in poverty.
- 87.9 % of adult recipients of KY Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP) are women.

The Future Well-Being of Women in Kentucky, Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center, 1999, based on US Bureau of the Census figures, 1990.

- Statewide, 53% of the current child support owed to children is being collected; this percentage includes partial payments.

Kentucky Kids Count, Kentucky Kids Count Consortium, 2000.

- The median annual income for female-headed families in Kentucky is \$10,700.
- In 1995 16.9% of women in Kentucky lived below the official poverty level. We know that the official poverty level is significantly lower than what it actually costs to live.
- In 1997, 15.9% of women in Kentucky over the age of 25 had completed four years or more of college.
- In 1994-1995, 15% of Kentucky women had no health insurance.

The Status of Women in Kentucky, Institute for Women's Policy Research, 1998.

- Kentucky ranks in the bottom third in the nation in the following categories:
 - Percent of College Educated Women
 - Women's Business Ownership
 - Percent of Women above Poverty Level

The Status of Women in the States, Institute for Women's Policy Research, 2000.

- 41 percent of Kentucky low-income mothers are uninsured. Seventy-nine percent of these low-income mothers are in working families.

Millions of Mothers Lack Health Insurance Coverage, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2001.

- While the decline in unemployment is good news, not everyone benefited equally. Less-educated workers (especially women) had unemployment rates that were above the state average. For example, while in 1999 the general unemployment rate in Kentucky was 4.5%, the unemployment rate for women with less than a high school education in 1997-99 was 20.2%.

State of Working America 2000-01, Economic Policy Institute, 2000.